

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONIn the Abstract

Please amend the abstract in the manner indicated.

~~A usable structure should be provided for easily fastening lock pieces 3 to and releasing them from the axial member and putting the axial member in and out without any extra operation(s). A simple fastening device 40 having has a structure where [(1)] a lock piece [(3)] is forced by a spring [(4)] to engage with an axial member [(6)] in a case 1 [(1)], (2) when When the axial member 6 is [(being)] inserted into the case [(1)], the lock piece [(3)] moves back is moved away from the axial member [(6)] by a releasing member, and later, the The lock piece [(3)] is engaged with the axial member 6 to be fastened with the axial member, and (3) connected to the releasing member [(5)] and the lock piece 3 are joined together in such a manner that the releasing member 5 is provided in the case 1 so as to move linearly and thereby move back the lock piece 3 from the axial member 6 by a pin.~~

In the specification

On page 1 after the title, please insert the following:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

The present Application is based on International Application No. PCT/JP2004/017803, filed on November 30, 2004, which in turn corresponds to Japan Application No. 2003-402111 filed on December 1, 2003, and priority is hereby claimed under 35 USC §119 based on these applications. Each of these applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety into the present application.

Please amend the following paragraphs in the manner indicated.

[0012] In order to attain the above objective, the simple fastening device of Claim 1 according to a first embodiment of the invention is characterized such that (1) has a structure wherein (a) a lock piece is forced by a spring to engage with an axial member in a case, and (b) when the

axial member is inserted into the case, the lock piece moves back from the axial member, (c) later, the lock piece is engaged with the axial member so as to be fastened with the axial member; and (2) contains a releasing member that is jointed together with the lock piece in such a way that the releasing member is provided in the case so as to move linearly so as to release the lock piece from fastening, thereby releasing the lock piece from the axial member.

[0013] In the ~~invention of Claim 1~~ first embodiment, when the axial member is being inserted into the case, the lock piece moves back from the axial member. Later, the lock piece is engaged with the axial member so as to be fastened with the axial member. Therefore, fastening the axial member can be done by a one-step operation.

[0015] Further, the remaining member is ~~jointed~~ connected with the lock piece in such a way that the force of the spring causes the releasing member and the lock piece to automatically return to their original positions, which is the standby state, after releasing them from being fastened to each other. Therefore, re-fastening of the lock piece to the axial member can be done without any extra motion. Thus, no operation is needed for the releasing member and the lock piece to enter into the standby state each time that the axial member is inserted into and removed from the case. Thus, usability is improved.

[0017] The ~~invention of Claim 2 is the simple fastening device recited in Claim 1, and~~ above mentioned embodiment is such that (1) said releasing member can move linearly in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member, and (2) said spring forces the releasing member to move in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member, so that said spring forces the lock piece, to engage with the axial member via the releasing member.

[0018] In the ~~invention of Claim 2,~~ Further, the releasing member can move linearly in the direction perpendicular to the insertion direction of the axial member, so that the linear movement of the releasing member does not interfere with the axial member, which improves usability.

[0020] The ~~invention of Claim 3 is the simple fastening device recited in Claim 1 or Claim 2 and~~ A further embodiment is such that (1) guide grooves that extend in the direction perpendicular to

the insertion direction of the axial member are formed on the outer surface of the case, (2) the releasing member has guide arms that slide in the guide grooves, and (3) the guide arms and the lock piece are jointed together by means of a pin.

[0021] In the ~~invention of Claim 3,~~ above arrangement because the guide, arms disposed on the releasing member slide in the grooves on the outer surface of the case, the releasing member moves linearly and steadily, which is a feature that further improves usability.

[0022] ~~The invention of Claim 4 is the simple fastening device recited in any of Claims 1 to 3,~~ and A further embodiment is such that (1) the case has a slope that extends away from the axial member in the insertion direction of the axial member, and (2) there are formed in the case (a) a tapered section on which the lock pieces slide, and (b) a supporting wall that faces the tapered section and supports the outer surface of the axial member with which the lock pieces engage.

[0023] In the ~~invention of Claim 4,~~ above arrangement the lock pieces slide along the case's tapered section, and said lock pieces can move in the releasing or engagement direction of the axial member resulting in stable operation. The supporting wall is formed in the tapered section to support the axial member, leading to rigid and steady fastening of the lock piece to the axial member.